

Message Text

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71

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 VOE-00 SCA-01 INSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /077 W

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P 240125Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6952

AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ PRIORITY

INFO AMCONGEN GUADALAJARA UNN

AMCONSUL MATAMOROS UNN

AMCONSUL MAZATLAN UNN

AMCONSUL MERIDA UNN

AMCONGEN MONTERREY UNN

AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO UNN

AMCONGEN TIJUANA UNN

UNCLAS MEXICO 10823

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, ELAB, MX

SUBJ: UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS: THREE ILLEGALS ALLEGE "TORTURE"
IN ARIZONA

1. SUMMARY. THREE YOUNG MEXICANS WHO ADMIT ENTERING U.S.
ILLEGALLY CLAIM TO HAVE BEEN SHOT, HANGED BURNED WITH HOT
IRON, AND OTHERWISE TORTURED BY UNIDENTIFIED ASSAILANTS LAST
WEEK NEAR DOUGLAS, ARIZONA. THEY ARE NOW HOSPITALIZED ON
MEXICAN SIDE OF BORDER. FONSEC HAS REPORTEDLY "PROTESTED"
VIA MEXCONSUL. END SUMMARY.

2. SUNDAY RADIO AND MONDAY MORNING PRESS HEADLINED TABLES OF
TORTURE ALLEGEDLY SUFFERED BY THREE YOUNG MEXICAN BRACEROS
SHORTLY AFTER THEY CROSSED ARIZONA-SONORA BORDER ILLEGALLY
ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18. IDENTIFIED AS ELEAZAR RUELAS
ZABALA (AGE 24), MANUEL GARCIA LOYA (25), AND BERNABE HERRERA
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MATA (21), VICTIMS CLAIM THEY WERE ACCOSTED AND TAKEN PRIS-

ONER BY AN UNIDENTIFIED SPANISH-SPEAKING PERSON ARMED WITH A PISTOL, LATER JOINED BY TWO OTHERS WHO ACCUSED THE TRIO ("IN PERFECT SPANISH") OF HAVING STOLEN FIREARMS FROM THEM TWO WEEKS PREVIOUSLY. MEXICANS CLAIM THEY WERE THEN TIED, BEATEN, THEIR CLOTHES CUT FROM THEIR BODIES WITH KNIVES, HANGED WITH ROPES BY THE NECK UNTIL ALMOST UNCONSCIOUS, AND BURNED ABOUT THE FEET WITH RED-HOT IRONS. WHEN THEY FINALLY MANAGED TO ESCAPE (OR WERE ALLOWED TO FLEE), TWO OF THE MEXICANS WERE HIT IN THE BACK BY SHOTGUN BLASTS.

3. IN A MANNER UNCLEAR FROM NEWS REPORTS, BRACEROS MANAGED TO REACH MEXICAN BORDER (SOME SIX MILES AWAY) AND WERE EVENTUALLY HOSPITALIZED AT AGUA PRIETA, SON., WHERE THEY TOLD THEIR STORY TO AUTHORITIES AND LATER TO NEWSMEN.

4. PRESS RELEASE FROM FONSEC STATES GOM HAD DEMANDED THAT U.S. AUTHORITIES APPLY "FULL FORCE OF LAW TO THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE OSTENSIBLY ABUSIVE AND INHUMANE CRIMINAL ACTS." ADDS THAT MEXCONSUL IN DOUGLAS, RAUL AVELEYRA, IMMEDIATELY CONTACTED COCHISE (ARIZ.) COUNTY OFFICIALS TO DEMAND PROMPT INVESTIGATION AND THAT HE AND CONSUL GENERAL IN EL PASO HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO KEEP UP ACTIVE PRESSURE ON LAW AUTHORITIES UNTIL JUSTICE DONE. FONSEC HAS MEANWHILE SENT DEPUTY DIRGEN OF CONSULAR SERVICE (LUIS WYBO ALFARO) TO SIT IN ON COCHISE COUNTY GRAND JURY HEARING SCHEDULED FOR AUG. 27.

5. FOR HERMOSILLO AND DC. JUAREZC PLEASE FOLLOW THIS "TORTURE" CASE CLOSELY AND PROVIDE EMBASSY AND DEPT. WITH ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFO AS AVAILABLE. DEPT PLEASE ALSO KEEP US INFORMED.

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